

REMARKS

Restriction to either claims 1 to 17 or claims 18 to 20 was required under 35 U.S.C. 121 and made final. Claim 10 was objected to because of informalities. Claims 1 to 4, 7, 8, 12 to 14 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Bryson et al. Claims 9, 10, 11, 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Bryson et al. in view of Uno.

Claims 1, 8, 9, 10 and 18 have been amended.

Claims 4 to 7 have been canceled without prejudice.

Reconsideration of the application based on the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Election Requirement

Restriction to either claims 1 to 17 or claims 18 to 20 was held to be required under 35 U.S.C. 121 as claims 1 to 17 were held to be drawn to a registration device for a sheet material article handler, and claims 18 to 20 were held to be drawn to a method for registering a sheet material article.

This restriction requirement is respectfully traversed again and withdrawal of the restriction requirement requested, as the handle suggested by the Office Action would be a driver. Even if were not, claim 18 specifically requires “using a driver.” Claim 18 has been amended as with claim 1, but should the restriction requirement be continued, permission for cancellation of claims 18 to 20 by Examiner’s Amendment is hereby given.

Claim Objections

Claim 10 was objected to because of informalities. Claim 10 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. 102/103 Rejections

Claims 1 to 4, 7, 8, 12 to 14 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Bryson et al. Claims 9, 10, 11, 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Bryson et al. in view of Uno.

Claim 1 as amended recites “the driver being configured to rotate the backstop about an axis in a single angular direction so as to define the arcuate path, the axis being disposed on a movable table

of the sheet material article handler.”

Bryson does not rotate a backstop in a single angular direction, but rather reciprocates the pushers 72 in the horizontal and vertical directions. See Bryson at col. 6, line 56 et seq.

Thus, the pushers 72 do not rotate, and the pushers 72 move in both directions, back and forth in a reciprocating motion, as opposed to the single angular direction of the backstop of the present invention. The pushers 72 of Bryson also do not rotate about an axis disposed at a moveable table.

The pushers 4 of Uno also reciprocate and do not move in a single angular direction, and do not rotate about an axis as claimed.

Withdrawal of the rejection to claim 1 and its dependent claims is respectfully submitted.

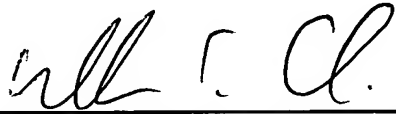
CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and applicants respectfully request such action.

If any additional fees are deemed to be due at this time, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of the same to Deposit Account No. 50-0552.

Respectfully submitted,

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